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Soviet Frontier Activity

1. Twelve buildings and installations are being constructed behind the hills of Juinbi in the Dzhulfa area.
2. A brick observation post was recently completed near the 700-meter hill opposite Iranian Ahmadabad village. The observation post is approximately three meters high and four meters wide, and has a gun emplacement approximately 1.5 meters wide, extending towards Ahmadabad. The observation post does not have a radio antenna or tower. There are two observers on watch at all times.
3. A gun emplacement was constructed recently at the Pirtapeh (not located) border post. New emplacements are under construction approximately 200 meters southwest of Pirtapeh.
4. A new trench has been dug opposite Omstan Sofla. [ ]
5. On 14 September 1952, between 2100 and 2330, searchlights from the Soviet frontier posts of Eshnevar, Pir Shahverdi, Qal'eh-haq, and Afjeh (Khalkhaneh) illuminated Iranian territory between the Iranian frontier posts of Omstan and Tulun.

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7. Barbed wire entanglements are being placed along the frontier in the area of Anuz [redacted], Baghchelar [redacted] and Armudi [redacted]. The barbed wire, stretched in two parallel lines 20 meters apart, is surrounded by mines. This area consists of high rocky elevations, deep valleys, and impassable mountains.
8. A Soviet frontier guard cavalry unit began military maneuvers on 20 August 1952 in the area of Tapesar, Isa Seyfi, and Zavand. The unit, which was under the command of Col. Romanko and Maj. Shuviov, was active at night. The operations extended to Rayon Sonjedi and Artapa.
9. Beginning 28 August 1952, Soviet cavalrymen took part in military maneuvers in the area of Sonjedi, Artapa, and Qapchi Mahalleh.

#### Soviet Military, Air, and Naval Activity

10. In August, male citizens born in the years 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, and 1922 were conscripted for military duty. Recruits from the Zavand area were transferred to Salian for military training and familiarization with new weapons.
11. Between 16 and 22 Soviet aircraft arrived in the frontier area on 23 August to take part in the military maneuvers of the cavalry units under the command of Colonel Romanko (see para. 8). During the operations the aircraft "attacked" the Soviet bases and installations at Omstomnok, Sholecheran, Ashaghi Gaduk, and Kaluz. Most of the aircraft were of the pre-World War II vintage. Four new four-engine aircraft landed in Kalleh Dahaneh, but did not participate in the maneuvers.
12. A new airfield with hangars has been constructed three kilometers north of Aras and six kilometers from Iranian territory. The hangars are constructed of bricks with iron roofs.
13. A number of Soviet marines and naval personnel arrived in Astara recently to recruit civilians for naval service. The Soviet naval units in the Caspian are constantly being replaced. New vessels enter the Caspian from the Baltic Sea via the Volga River. These vessels are equipped with two antiaircraft guns and are manned by a crew of 15 seamen.
14. Approximately 1 August, 12 ships, equipped with coastal guns (sic) and manned by Azerbaydzhanis, arrived in Lenkoran from Nargin naval base. They remained in Lenkoran four days, surveying the coast, and then departed.
15. A Soviet admiral arrived in the Caspian area recently and established Nargin Island [redacted] as his headquarters. The admiral was transferred to the Caspian Sea from the Soviet naval base of Novorossiysk on the Black Sea.<sup>1</sup>

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#### Road and Rail Traffic

16. A great number of Soviet trucks (Pobeda, GAZ, ZIS, Studebaker makes) have been moving back and forth along the frontier line between Astara and Kalaputi. These trucks convey flour, rice, lumber and other building materials to the builders of the new road in the area of Isa Seyfi. (see para 6).
1. [redacted] Comment: This is the first time an admiral has been in command of the Caspian Sea.

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